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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/659,929	09/11/2003	Christophe M. Rayssiguier	68.0355	6017

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SCHLUMBERGER RESERVOIR COMPLETIONS
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EXAMINER

THOMPSON, KENNETH L

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3672

DATE MAILED: 06/17/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/659,929

Applicant(s)

RAYSSIGUIER ET AL.

Examiner

Kenneth Thompson

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-46 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 12-32 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1,2,10,33-44 and 46 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 3-9,11 and 45 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 11 September 2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 11Sep03;9Apr04
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: ____

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claims 1, 2, 10, 33-44 and 46 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Purkis et al., U.S. 6,567,013.

Regarding claim 1, Purkis et al. discloses in figure 1 three hydraulically controlled well tool devices (24,26,28,30), a pair of hydraulic control lines (42; col. 3, lines 28-31) coupled to the tool devices providing independent control via a unique pressure level in the control line (col. 3, lines 33-42).

As to claim 2, Purkis et al. discloses the tool devices comprise six hydraulically controlled well tool devices (46,48).

As to claim 10, Purkis et al. discloses the unique pressure level comprises two unique pressure levels (lines 42 having pressure, lines 42 having zero pressure).

Regarding claim 33, Purkis discloses in figure 4 three hydraulically controlled well tool devices (158,160,162,164,166); and a plurality of hydraulic control lines (A,B,C,D) coupled to the at least three hydraulically controlled well tool devices, wherein the at least three hydraulically controlled well tool devices are independently controllable via sequential

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application of pressure in the plurality of hydraulic control lines (col. 9, lines 33-56), and the number of well tools (158,160,162,164,166) is greater than the number of hydraulic control lines (A,B,C,D).

As to claims 34 and 35, Purkis discloses the tool devices having four or six hydraulically controlled well tool devices (144,146,148,150,152,154) and three control lines (A,B,C).

As to claim 36, Purkis et al. discloses each well tool having a decoder (172,174,176,178) connected to a tool (via actuators 144,146,148,150,152,154).

Regarding claims 37 and 40, Purkis et al. discloses in figure 5 at least four of decoders (192,194...206) coupled to a plurality of well tool components (208,210...222); a first pilot and second command line (A,B) coupled to the plurality of decoders.

As to claims 38 and 39, Purkis et al. discloses a plurality of crossovers (D,E) disposed between two decoders of the plurality of decoders.

As to claim 41, Purkis et al. discloses a third (C) pilot and command control line.

Regarding claims 42 and 43, Purkis et al. discloses connecting decoders (158,160...170) to a plurality of hydraulically controlled well tool components (144,146...156); coupling a plurality of control lines (A,B,C,D) to the decoders; and utilizing each control line as both a pilot line for controlling a decoder and a command line for actuating a hydraulically controlled well tool component (col. 9, lines 29-56; presence or absence of pressure in each control line affects the decoder).

AS to claim 44, Purkis et al. discloses applying a unique predetermined pressure level in the pilot line (col. 4, lines 43-47).

As to claim 46, Purkis et al. discloses a greater number of decoders (158,160...170) than the number of control lines (A,B,C,D).

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 12-32 are allowed.

Claims 3-9, 11, 45 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter:

The prior art of record does not disclose or suggest all the claimed subject matter including a first group of well tool devices are controlled by unique pressure levels in a first hydraulic control line, and a second group of well tool devices are controlled by unique pressure levels in a second hydraulic control.

The prior art of record does not disclose or suggest all the claimed subject matter including each decoder comprising a main valve that remains open through a predetermined pressure range applied to one of the pair of control lines, the other of the pair of control lines being placed in direct hydraulic communication with the hydraulically controlled well tool when the main valve is open.

The prior art of record does not disclose or suggest all the claimed subject matter including three unique pressure levels.

The prior art of record does not disclose or suggest all the claimed subject matter including a unique pressure range in the first hydraulic line selectively opens any one of the main valves.

The prior art of record does not disclose or suggest all the claimed subject matter including the level of pressure within a range in a control line controls an individual tool associated with the pressure range.

The prior art of record does not disclose or suggest all the claimed subject matter including each unique predetermined pressure level corresponding to the actuation pressure required to actuate a specific decoder.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Kenneth Thompson whose telephone number is 571 272-7037. The examiner can normally be reached on 7:00 am - 4:30 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David J. Bagnell can be reached on 571-272-6999. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


13 June 2005

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